

Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MONDAY, JULY 7, 2008 WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/KYW CONTACT: SANDY FOCKEN PHONE: (502) 582-5911 FAX: (502) 582-5097

CONVICTED FELON INDICTED ON FEDERAL NARCOTICS AND WEAPONS CHARGES

- Louisville man charged with trafficking in \$13,000 of crack while possessing two handguns

LOUISVILLE, KY - A federal grand jury in Louisville returned an indictment against Jeff Martin, age 31, of 2928 Magazine Street, Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, on charges of possessing crack cocaine with the intent to distribute it while possessing a firearm, David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today.

The Indictment alleges that on May 1, 2007, Martin possessed over fifty grams of crack cocaine intending to distribute it. The street value of the drugs was approximately \$13,000. The Indictment further charges that Martin possessed two firearms on December 26, 2007. Martin is a convicted felon, having received two convictions in Jefferson County for assault and cocaine possession.

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are life imprisonment, a \$8,000,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of life; and the minimum potential penalties are 5 years imprisonment, and supervised release for a period of 5 years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert B. Bonar. The

Louisville Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with Louisville Metro Police Department, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

This is a Project Backfire prosecution. Project Backfire is a cooperative effort by the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, the Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorneys Office, the Louisville Metro Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the United States Attorney's Office to ensure that firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

Martin is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on July 22, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., in Louisville, Kentucky.

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The indictment of a person by a Grand Jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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